

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) An interactive information distribution system delivering digital interactive streaming media over a large geographic area wherein the digital interactive streaming media provides different broadcast quality interactive programming to a plurality of remote locations within the geographic area, comprising:

a network operations center providing national programming and multiplexing interactive programming to create a digital interactive streaming media;

a set top application system to process the interactive programming into the broadcast quality interactive programming to be displayed to viewers, wherein the interactive programming is carried by the digital streaming media and enables viewers to select displayed items for purchase, and wherein the broadcast quality interactive programming is media that includes full-motion video suitable for display on a television;

a distribution system transmitting the digital interactive streaming media to the plurality of remote locations; and

a return network to communicate transactional information from the remote location to provide interactive programming capability.

Claim 14. (Original) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming offers services for purchase from commercial providers.

Claims 15-16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes raw data that is manipulated by the set top application system to produce the broadcast quality interactive programming.

Claim 18. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the media within the broadcast quality interactive programming that includes the full motion video is media suitable for display on the television at about 24 or about 30 frames per second.

Claim 19. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the broadcast quality interactive programming is not still pictures overlaid on a television program.

Claim 20. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes still graphics and full-motion video.

Claim 21. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes still graphics with an audio voice over.

Claim 22. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes still graphics and a pop-up video clip

Claim 23. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes a scroll bar.

Claim 24. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes items that may be dynamically tailored interactively by a viewer.

Claim 25. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes broadcast quality television rather than still graphics.

Claim 26. (New) The invention of claim 13, wherein the interactive programming includes broadcast quality television and still graphics.

Claim 27. (New) An information distribution system delivering television programming over a large geographic area, wherein the programming incorporates interactive programming content delivered to remote locations within a large geographic area, comprising:

a network center providing national programming and multiplexing local and interactive programming to be delivered over a digital data stream, wherein the digital data stream comprises media that includes full-motion video suitable for display as customary digital or analogue television;

a data distribution system transmitting the multiplexed digital data stream to a plurality of remote nodes at the remote locations;

one or more of the remote nodes generating a broadcast-quality multi-window screen display in accordance with information components in the multiplexed digital data stream, wherein windows in the multi-window screen display contain different broadcast-quality programming, wherein at least a portion of the different programming is carried by the

multiplexed digital data stream and at least one window in the broadcast-quality multi-window screen display contains a program feed directed to the large geographic area for at least a portion of the time that the multi-window screen display is generated, and wherein at least a portion of the different broadcast-quality programming in the multi-window screen display contains the local programming for at least a portion of the time that the multi-window screen display is generated; and

a set-top system to enable the interactive programming to be displayed to viewers, wherein the interactive programming enables viewers to select displayed topics or items, and a return network to communicate responses, requests, or transactional information from the viewers to facilitate interactivity of the system.

Claim 28. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein at least one window in the broadcast-quality multi-window display contains program content directed to less than all of the geographic area.

Claim 29. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein at least one window in the multi-window display contains program content of less than broadcast-quality directed to less than all of the geographic area.

Claim 30. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the one or more of the remote nodes multiplexes additional local content with content provided by the network center and generates the broadcast-quality multi-window screen display based at least in part on the additional local content.